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WAR DEPARTMENT  
THE CHIEF OF STAFF  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

27 April 1946

Dear Mr. President:

As you directed, I have carefully gone over our list of officers to determine the one that in my opinion would, from every standpoint, be most suitable to take over the job now held by Admiral Sauers.

For this post I recommend Major General Charles H. Bonesteel. He is a Regular Army officer and has established throughout his long service a reputation for integrity, energy and administrative ability and, in addition, has a good personality. He is thoroughly acquainted with all War Department organization and procedures. He is 61 years of age but in splendid health and full of vigor and vitality.

If you desire, he will report to Admiral Leahy for conference at any time convenient to the Admiral. This can easily be arranged if someone in the Admiral's office will merely telephone to General Handy, who is acting for me in the War Department during my absence in the Pacific.

General Bonesteel is instantly available for duty and if considered desirable, can enter the office as an assistant now, in order to be properly indoctrinated before the departure of Admiral Sauers.

Permit me to wish you good fortune in the settling of the many difficult problems facing you. I hope that when I return I shall find you in the best of health and spirits. This is a good time to say again that I had a perfectly wonderful visit on your ship. I hope you get a chance to use it often.

Respectfully and sincerely,

Dwight D. Eisenhower

The Honorable Harry S. Truman  
President of the United States  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

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